United Nations A/55/680

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 December 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda items 117 and 43

Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/55/L.33/Rev.1

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/55/24) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/55/L.33 on the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA).

2. The Advisory Committee notes from the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/55/L.33/Rev.1 and paragraph 6 of the statement that the peace-building process of MINUGUA would continue until 2003. Accordingly, under the terms of operative paragraph 19 of draft resolution A/55/L.33/Rev.1, the General Assembly would authorize the renewal of the mandate of the Mission from 1 January to 31 December 2001. In this regard, the Advisory Committee recalls that the mandate of the Mission was to have been completed on 31 December 2000.

3. As can be seen from paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's statement, the achievements already registered in the implementation of the peace process resulting in substantial reductions in individual complaints form the basis for the restructuring of MINUGUA. Regional offices and sub-offices will be deployed without sacrificing geographical coverage to ensure the continuing presence of MINUGUA. Two regional offices will be converted into sub-offices, two sub-offices in another region will become mobile offices, and one sub-office will be closed. The Advisory Committee notes that this scaling down involves an overall decrease of 45 per cent

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in the Mission staff. Other requirements have also been scaled down and the results of this are summarized in annex I to the statement.

4. In his statement, the Secretary-General estimates the requirements for the extension of MINUGUA at $16,235,400 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001.

5. The Advisory Committee notes that there is no provision for the liquidation of the Mission. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that, in the event of the liquidation of MINUGUA, cost estimates will be provided in 2002.

6. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that substantive elements had been incorporated into all verification areas of the Mission with a view to providing broader coverage and support to the rights of the indigenous peoples and women in Guatemala. The Indigenous Affairs and Women Issues Unit will coordinate and ensure the coherence of the now dispersed substantive functions and maintain contact with national and international actors which promote recognition of indigenous rights.

7. Provision is made in paragraphs 1 and 2 of section C of annex I to the statement for 4 military liaison officers and 10 civilian police observers. Upon enquiry as to their functions, the Advisory Committee was informed that while the military liaison officers would help the Guatemala military to develop a new military doctrine and advise on military education, the civilian police observers would work with Guatemalan civilian police on issues of public security and verification of human rights violations.

8. With regard to consultants, the Advisory Committee notes from the statement that the estimates for this item have been increased. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the increase was to help to offset the reduction in staff resources and therefore to provide flexibility to the Mission in implementing its mandate.

9. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 12 of the statement that the scaling down of the activities of the Mission would involve the transfer of excess equipment. For instance, the Committee was informed that 100 vehicles would be transferred to Brindisi. The Committee notes that no provision has been made for the shipment of excess equipment and that approval for the necessary resources will be sought from the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

10. In connection with operational requirements, the Advisory Committee notes from the statement that the estimates under this item have been reduced from an apportionment of $5,414,300 for 2000 to $2,297,600.

11. The Advisory Committee notes from section A of annex II to the statement that the estimated requirements for rental of premises at headquarters for 2001 is almost the same as for 2000. The Committee was informed that this was because the restructuring of regional offices has led to the consolidation of functions at headquarters.

12. The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/250 A of 23 December 1999, approved a provision of $90,387,200 for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

13. The Advisory Committee also recalls that the General Assembly, in its decision 54/477 B of 15 June 2000, noted that the utilization of the provision for special political missions amounted to $66,074,600 and that an unallocated balance of $24,312,600 remained against the provision of $90,387,200 for special political missions.

14. As indicated in paragraph 15 of the statement, charges totalling $17,069,400 relating to actions taken by the Security Council regarding good offices, preventive diplomacy and post-conflict peace-building missions have been reported in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/55/645). Should those charges be approved by the General Assembly, the residual uncommitted balance of the original $90,387,200 provision for special political missions would amount to $7,243,200.

15. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/55/L.33/Rev.1, additional requirements of $16,235,400 would arise for 2001. Of that amount, $7,243,200 would be charged against the existing provision for special political missions, and an additional appropriation of $8,992,200 for the balance of the requirements would be required under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

United Nations A/55/681

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Distr.: General
12 December 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 138 (b)

Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Eduardo Manuel da Fonseca Fernandes **Ramos** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 27th, 28th, 34th and 36th meetings, on 13 and 16 November and on 4 and 7 December 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.27, 28, 34 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the revised budget for the maintenance and expansion of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 1 July to 30 June 2001 (A/55/482) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/516).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.11

4. At the 34th meeting, on 4 December, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" (A/C.5/55/L.11).

5. At the 36th meeting, on 7 December, the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, coordinator of the informal consultations on this item, informed the Committee that

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no agreement had been reached during the informal consultations with a view to presenting a draft resolution to the Committee.

6. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement, and requested that a single vote be taken on the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 14 of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.11. The representatives of Israel, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made statements (see A/C.5/55/SR.36).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 14 of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.11 by a recorded vote of 68 to 3, with 35 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

8. Also at the 36th meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested that a recorded vote be taken on draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.11 as a whole.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.11, as a whole, by a recorded vote of 109 to 3 (see para. 11). The voting was as follows:[2]

[1] The representatives of Bahrain, Nepal, Slovenia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam later stated that, had they been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour.

[2] The representatives of Bahrain, Slovenia and Viet Nam later stated that, had they been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour.

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Japan, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Australia (on behalf also of Canada and New Zealand), Lebanon and Israel (see A/C.5/55/SR.36).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

11. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1310 (2000) of 27 July 2000,

[3] A/55/482.
[4] A/55/516.

Recalling its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/267 of 15 June 2000,

Reaffirming its resolutions 51/233 of 13 June 1997, 52/237 of 26 June 1998, 53/227 of 8 June 1999 and 54/267,

Reaffirming also that the costs of the Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 31 October 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 139.4 million United States dollars, representing some 3.9 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 31 December 2000, notes that some 21 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Express its deep concern* that Israel did not comply with General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227 and 54/267;

3. *Stresses once again* that Israel should strictly abide by General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227 and 54/267;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

5. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

6. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

7. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

8. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

9. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Force, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

11. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[4]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Force;

14. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the full implementation of paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 51/233, paragraph 5 of resolution 52/237, paragraph 11 of resolution 53/227 and paragraph 14 of resolution 54/267, stresses once again that Israel shall pay the amount of 1,284,633 dollars resulting from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this matter to the Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session;

15. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon the amount of 86,758,400 dollars gross (86,301,300 dollars net) for the expansion of the Force for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in addition to the amount of 146,833,694 dollars gross (141,889,841 dollars net) already appropriated by the Assembly in resolution 54/267;

16. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into account the amount of 85,652,987 dollars gross (82,769,071 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/267 for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001, to apportion among Member States the additional

amount of 50,609,069 dollars gross (50,342,425 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, the scale of assessments for the year 2000[5] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 43,379,202 dollars gross (43,150,650 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[6] to be applied against the balance, that is, 7,229,867 dollars gross (7,191,775 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

17. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 266,644 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001, 228,552 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 38,092 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

18. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 61,480,707 dollars gross (59,120,770 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/267 for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 36,149,331 dollars gross (35,958,875 dollars net), at a monthly rate of 7,229,867 dollars gross (7,191,775 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[6] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 January 2001;

19. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 190,456 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001;

20. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Force;

22. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as

[5] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[6] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

23. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".